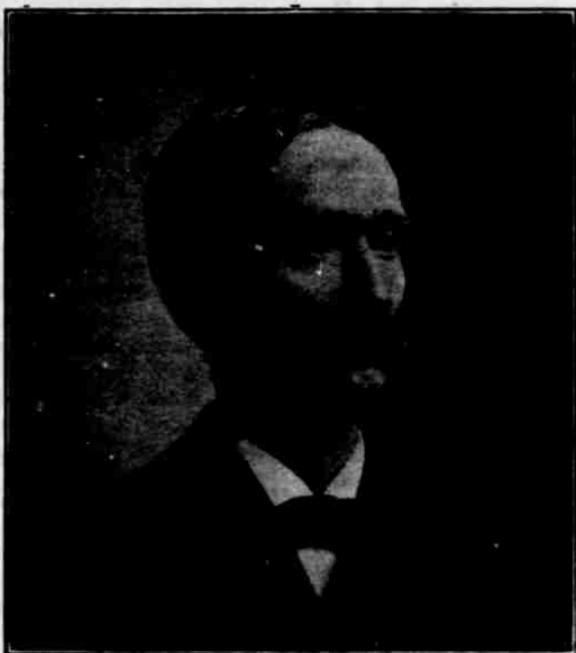


## IN THE REALM OF POLITICS

Willis G. Sears, speaker of the Nebraska house, is being brought forward prominently as a candidate for the gubernatorial nomination. No definite announcement of his candidacy has yet come from the lips of Mr. Sears, but there are those who say that he will be very shortly found an active and energetic candidate for the honor.

Mr. Sears is a lawyer of ability. In appearance he is not very impressive, but even a brief acquaintance with him is sufficient to impress one with

nomination. If Rosewater makes good his bluff, he will run independent himself. If he backs down he will be laughed at so heartily that it will injure his hold on things political. On the other hand he must choose which one of his enemies he loves least. It seems to be conceded that the democratic nominee will be either Frank Ransom or Gilbert M. Hitchcock, both of whom are on Mr. Rosewater's little black book, but whether ahead of Dave Mercer yet remains to be discovered.



W. G. SEARS.  
Ex-Speaker of the Nebraska House.

the man's strength of character and ability. He came to Lincoln a few weeks before the legislative session of 1901 a comparatively unknown man, and yet before the house caucus met he was the practically unanimous choice of the members for speaker.

At home he is equally popular. If he wants any office up that way all he has to do is to say so. Sometimes when he doesn't want it particularly his fellow-citizens go around and toss it in his lap. When he came down to Lincoln as a member of the house he was occupying the office of county attorney of Burt and mayor of Tekamah.

Mr. Sears is a man of middle age. He is a good-humored, good-natured man, slow to anger, but when once aroused a lion in his wrath. He believed that the state treasurer, for instance, was not toting fair in the matter of purchasing county bonds and he at once started an investigation that led to an expose of rather startling proportions.

Burt county is in the same judicial district with Douglas county, and Mr. Sears thus has an opportunity for a political alliance of unusual strength. If Mr. Sears does come out as a candidate for the nomination it will mean that he has strong hopes of knocking the persimmons. He is a man thoroughly conversant with politics in Nebraska, and he makes no useless fights for mere vainglory.

A tremendous crop of congressional aspirants is being harvested just now. Almost every county in the Third and Sixth districts is represented in the list of candidates, while in the Fifth new ones are being sprung each day. In the Fourth the situation is little better, although Charlie Sloan of Geneva had such a good start on the other fellows that they have some difficulty in catching up with him. In the Second district Mr. Rosewater has not yet found anyone to buck Mercer, and the chances very largely for Dave's re-

In the First district Congressman Burkett can now almost read his title clear. Judge Holmes seems disinclined to rush into a scrap in which victory here at home might be turned into defeat in the convention. The situation seems to be like this: If Mr. Burkett has no opposition at home and gets Lancaster county he will be renominated without any trouble. If he should lose here at home or have a very warm fight on his hands it would invite candidates from each of the other six counties in the district to enter the fray. Almost every other county now has a tentative candidate, whose running depends upon Mr. Burkett's immediate future at home. The result of all this would be a disturbance of the beautiful harmony now existing in the First, and might result in Lincoln losing the congressman. Therefore it is that some very strong considerations impel local politicians to make everything harmonious. This means Mr. Burkett's renomination and naturally his re-election will follow. Mr. Burkett has done some very good work for his constituents. He has not figured very much in debate as yet, but each year has been growing stronger with his fellow members. He has been advanced rapidly in committee work and it is quite probable that with another term he would be in a position to cop out some very good things for his district, just as Congressman Mercer has been able to do for his home town.

The result in Lincoln was a decided surprise to nearly every one, including most of those who voted for prohibition. Few thought it would be anywhere near as close as it was. A number of people voted for prohibition because they believe it a good thing for a university town; others because it was a matter of right or wrong and their consciences would not permit them to vote to continue so evil an institution as the saloon; others voted

for it because they would like to see the experiment tried and figured that one year would neither make nor break the town; still others because they desired to take a slap at the saloon men, who have been altogether too gay in the matter of politics. They formed a league that picked out certain candidates irrespective of politics and supported them, they talked- too, about banding together and getting an excise board next year to their liking. Many people thought a lesson was due them, and these hope that the narrow escape the saloon men had will teach them humbleness of spirit.

The republican city ticket was victorious, as it should have been. Only two republican candidates for council were defeated. In the First ward the fellows who had been damning Bob Malone because he ran in a railroad through the property district at midnight cooled off perceptibly by election day, and instead of taking vengeance on him supported him. It is strongly suspected that illegal voting was done in this ward, but the morale of politics there has not that high standard of other precincts, say in the Sixth, and probably these little things won't matter. "Sandhill" Moore's defeat in the Third was rather unexpected. Moore had very decided opposition among the republicans, but it was thought that Bishop's lack of acquaintance would prevent him winning. But it didn't. If Moore hadn't been an employe of the Burlington he might have gone through easily. This was one case where Burlington support hurt a candidate, even in a ward where dozens of Burlington men are employed. Moore is a big, bluff, good-natured fellow, but the fastidious republicans over that way didn't think he measured up to the standard of councilman.

### Cread of Feet on Lincoln's Streets

Promptly at fifteen minutes of 5 o'clock each morning pedestrians begin to creep like hurried shadows through

the darkness. They are a sort of advance guard to the business hum of the day and consist of passengers to various points anxious to catch the early trains and people with peculiar tasks requiring an hour of toil before the dawn of day.

Exactly one hour later there is another flurry. Unfortunates who have to unlock stores and offices, early risers of all sorts, are numbered in this rush. A few old timers are always on hand for a breakfast at some favorite restaurant before the larks ever think of stirring.

Just before 7 o'clock there is a trifle more noise and bustle. There seems to be more energy on hand than at the previous hours. But the true rush comes shortly before 8 o'clock. This is a favorite office hour and the business men are starting out in small regiments. Then, too, over a thousand university students begin wending their way toward the campus. Five minutes after the hour and everything is quiet. The streets are devoid of life.

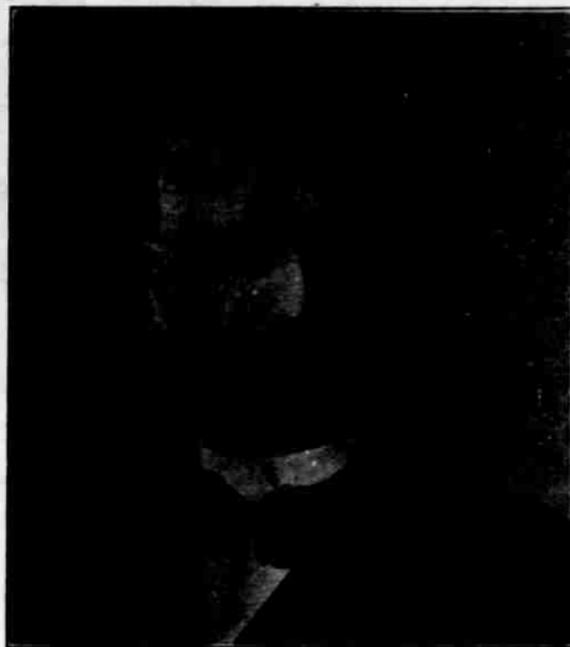
Whether shoppers bestir themselves depends entirely upon the weather and the attractiveness of the advertising pages of the papers. There may be crowded streets or simply erratic groups here and there during the forenoon.

At noon there is a grand free for all--after luncheon, of course. All the business men and clerks are on the go, to say nothing of a young army of students advancing upon restaurants and boarding clubs.

It all depends upon the shoppers again until the hour between five and six in the evening. Then trains from the city bring in pilgrims. Others are hiking for the depots intent on leaving. Of course there is always a steady stream supperwards.

Pleasure seekers are out at 8 o'clock again. Theatre goers and society folks are to be seen. In fair weather there are any number of people ambling leisurely up and down O street.

Last of all come the sleepy individuals alighting tired and weary from the late trains at 11 o'clock. This is the fag end of the day's business. Then comes the period of almost absolute quiet until the fretful stir of the first rush of the following morning.



IRVING L. LYMAN.

Irving L. Lyman, serving his second term as president of the Lincoln city council, comes from good New England stock, having been born in Hadley, Mass., fifty-six years ago. After picking up a knowledge of the newspaper business by working about the office of the New England Homesteader, at Springfield, Mass., he went to western New York for a couple of years, where he continued the work. At the end of that time he came to Nebraska, where he has resided ever since. He was managing editor of the Daily Globe one year, city editor of the Leader and city editor of the Daily Democrat. In 1879 he began to pay attention to city politics and was elected marshal, holding the position from 1879 to 1881. In 1883 he was chief of the fire department. From 1885 to 1891 he was water commissioner and from 1892 to 1899 an employe in the mailing room of the State Journal, since which time he has devoted his energies to his private affairs. In 1900 he was elected to the city council, where he was elected president on the resignation of John Mockett, enjoying the distinction of being the only councilman serving his first term to be elected to the presidency. On the reorganization of that body last spring he was chosen to the position again.

At the recent election, he received a gratifying majority and was returned by his constituents in the Seventh ward. Mr. Lyman lives at Eleventh and Fairfield streets. He has been a Mason for twenty-two years and a republican ever since he cast his first vote for General Grant.